

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUDAPE 00697 161156Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15
STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01
DOE-11 XMB-02 /106 W
-----040974 161203Z /15

P R 161020Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 700
INFO RUFNPS/AMEMBASSY PARIS 195

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 697

EB/EWT FOR CLARKE

USOECDC: PLS PASS DAS BARRACLOUGH

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: EEWT, HU
SUBJECT: MFN NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 039523

1. SUMMARY: HUNGARIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE OFFICIAL EDE SZIKLAI HAS PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH "RAW TRANSLATION" OF DRAFT TRADE AGREEMENT AND PROMISED PROPOSED HUNGARIAN REDRAFTS BY END OF WEEK. DISCUSSION OF VENUE FOR FEBRUARY 27 RESUMPTION OF TALKS REMAINS INCONCLUSIVE, AND AMBASSADOR WILL TAKE UP QUESTION AT HIGHER LEVEL FEBRUARY 16. END SUMMARY.

2. SZIKLAI ASKED EMBASSY ECONOFF TO CALL FEBRUARY 15 TO PICK UP HUNGARIAN TEXT OF DRAFT TRADE AGREEMENT. SZIKLAI EMPHASIZED THAT TEXT HAD BEEN TRANSLATED HASTILY SO AS TO PERMIT REVIEW WITHIN GOH; HE ANTICIPATED THAT
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TRANSLATION WOULD BE REFINED. EMBASSY HAS POUCHED TRANSLATION TEXT TO EB/EWT FOR CLARKE AND L/EB FOR CROOK.

3. SZIKLAI APOLOGIZED THAT PROMISED PROPOSALS FOR SEVERAL REVISIONS WERE NOT YET READY, BUT ASSURED EMBOFF THEY WILL BE PROVIDED WITHIN A DAY OR TWO. HE SPECIFICALLY

MENTIONED FIVE DRAFTS TO BE PROVIDED: AN EXPANDED PARAGRAPH III(11) RE AIRPORT AND PORT SERVICES; AN ALTERNATIVE PARAGRAPH ON EXPROPRIATION IN ARTICLE III; ALTERNATIVE PARAGRAPHS (2) THROUGH (5) IN ARTICLE III BIS; AN ADDITIONAL CLAUSE IN PREAMBLE; AND A LETTER REGARDING IMMUNITY. EMBOFF IN TURN PROMISED TO REQUEST PROPOSED LETTER ON EXPORT-IMPORT BANK AND REVISED PARAGRAPH ON SERVICES IN ARTICLE III. COMMENT. PLEASE REVIEW LIST OF PROMISED REVISIONS AND PROVIDE USG REVISIONS ASAP. DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO BRIEF SEN. STEVENSON'S OFFICE ON HUNGARIAN INTEREST IN ELIGIBILITY FOR EXIMBANK FINANCING, SINCE HUNGARIANS ELABORATELY DISCLAIMED ANY SUCH INTEREST DURING SENATOR'S JANUARY VISIT (REFTEL). END COMMENT.

4. SZIKLAI AND EMBOFF DISCUSSED VENUE QUESTION IN GENERAL TERMS. SZIKLAI'S MAIN INTEREST IN RAISING ISSUE SEEMED TO BE DESIRE TO START ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS ROLLING ONE WAY OR THE OTHER; HE DID NOT APPEAR TO HAVE HIGHER LEVEL GUIDANCE. EMBOFF EXPRESSED U.S. PREFERENCE FOR WASHINGTON BUT WILLINGNESS TO BE FLEXIBLE. COMMENT: AMBASSADOR WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS QUESTION WITH JANOS NYERGES FEBRUARY 16; IF THIS DISCUSSION PROVES INCONCLUSIVE, WE PLAN TO GO DIRECTLY TO DEPUTY MINISTER TOROK.

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